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 FROM THE AJ PRESS NEWS TEAM ACROSS AMERICA

## Japan apologizes for Bataan Death March

### Some Filipino vets say it's too late

LOS ANGELES—FILIPINO World War II veteran Faustino "Peping" Bacilig is working on his memoirs. Everyday the 87-year-old jots down his experience in the war on yellow sheets of legal paper but when it comes to the Bataan Death March in which he survived, he can't bear to write anything down.

Thousands of Filipinos and American soldiers have not forgotten the deadly 65-mile Bataan Death March in April 1942.

For many survivors like Bacilig, the traumatic experience has led to nightmares and deep hidden emotional scars.

Bacilig said that march was difficult. "I remember the scorching tropical sun, no rest and no food. Many of us were already weakened by malaria and dysentery so it was not wonderful."

"The suffering was expected because it was war time," he added.

When Bacilig and other Filipino WWII veterans heard that the

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Sen. Manny Villar

## RP Senator Villar tops SWS Survey

by MAILA AGER  
 Inquirer.net

MANILA—Embattled Senator Manny Villar has emerged as the leading presidential contender in the latest survey conducted by the Social Weather Station.

Villar, who has been accused of using his position to benefit from the C-5 road extension project, posted a high 22 percent approval rating from 7,000 respondents polled nationwide by the SWS between April 16 and May 6, 2009.

Vice President Noli de Castro followed Villar with 18 percent; Senator Francis Escudero and deposed President Joseph Estrada with 14; Senator Loren Legarda with 10 percent; Senator Manuel Roxas with 9 percent; Senator Panfilo "Ping" Lacson with 6 percent, Makati Jejomar Binay with 2 percent; Metro Manila Development Authority chairman Bayani Fernando with 1 percent.

The survey has a marginal error of 1.2 percent.

In a scenario with five candidates, Villar also topped the list with 27 percent, followed by De Castro with 22 percent; Escudero with 19 percent; Estrada with 16 percent; and Legarda with 13 percent.

Villar retained the top post with 31 percent even in a scenario with only four candidates. He was followed by De Castro 24 percent; Escudero with 23 percent; and Legarda with 18 percent.

If the 2010 presidential race would be a three-way contest among Escudero, De Castro and Villar, the latter would still win the election with 37 percent compared to De Castro's 30 percent and Escudero's 27 percent.

If it's a three-way contest with De Castro and Legarda, Villar would still win the presidency with 39 percent with De Castro getting only 30 percent and Legarda, 24 percent.

Reached for comment, former Congressman Gilbert Remulla, spokesman of Villar's Nacionalista Party, admitted that the result was "reflective" of the survey that they had commissioned in the SWS. ■

## Chiz, Loren, Noli top vice presidential poll

by HELEN FLORES  
 Philstar.com

MANILA—Senators Francis Escudero and Loren Legarda are nearly neck and neck in the latest survey on vice presidential contenders for the May 2010 elections.

Twenty-four percent of respondents to Pulse Asia's May 2009 Ulat ng Bayan

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ASIAN JOURNAL ANALYSIS

## A Scandalous Spectacle

### Philippine Senate's look into Anti-Voyeurism

by LOUIE JON A. SANCHEZ  
 AJPress Manila

WATER EVERYWHERE. Medical doctor Hayden Kho, Jr. and starlet Katrina Halili face each other for the first time in the Philippine Senate last week to face questions regarding their sex video scandal. Halili shed tears as Kho implicated her for drugs. Kho meanwhile got really wet when a retired policeman doused him with mineral water.

Katrina Halili gets emotional while being questioned at the hearing.  
 AJPress Photos by Andrew Tadalán

MANILA—Last week, the mother of controversial young medical doctor and model Hayden Kho, Jr., Irene, broke her silence on national TV to defend her son. She hits back at her son's detractors, and towards the end of the interview, drops the bomb at starlet Katrina Halili, who came out last week to file a case against the doctor, who appears with her in the sex videos that had been circulated in the World Wide Web.

The interview was done at the residence of the Khos by ABS-CBN, with the mother sporting an heirloom santo on the background. She was, all things considered, a

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## How it happened...

DECEMBER 24, 2008

Rumors of a "sex video" with Hayden Kho, Jr. and Katrina Halili have already surfaced to which Katrina replied, "Wala akong sex video" when asked by "The Buzz" during the Metro Manila Film Festival Parade of Stars.

January 18, 2009

Vicki Belo was also interviewed regarding the alleged sex video by "The Buzz." "Hay naku, no comment..." was Vicki's reply.

May 8, 2009

A website posted a link to the video of Katrina Halili, clad in underwear, dancing in front of Hayden Kho, Jr. while "Careless Whisper" plays in the background. This was allegedly taken around September of 2008 when Hayden was still a contestant of "Celebrity Duets" of GMA-7 where "Careless Whisper" was one of the songs he sang.

May 15, 2009

The same website posted a link to a second video, this time Katrina Halili and Hayden Kho, Jr. in a sexual act.

May 17, 2009

The same website posted a link to two videos of Hayden Kho, first one is with a commercial model/actress and the second one with a well-known model from Brazil who has started to build an acting career in the Philippines.

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## 44% of Filipinos feel economy will improve soon

by MA. ELISA P. OSORIO  
 Philstar.com

MANILA—A survey by a global market research firm Synovate said that 44 percent of Filipinos living in Metro Manila, North and South Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao believe that the economy is weak but will improve soon.

"Interestingly enough, Filipinos across the Philippines generally share a sentiment of renewed optimism and this is a good thing as it leads to a greater consumer confidence," Carole

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## The Signs of The Times

### Internet views, outrage on Philippine Congress 'ConAss'

by LOUIE JON A. SANCHEZ  
 AJPress Manila

voce and an alleged "no cha-cha, no pork barrel" tall order from Malacañang circulating. All these unfolded with the president nowhere in sight, as she went on state visits.

The outrage of people conquered social networking sites like Facebook, com and Plurk.com. In the popular Twitter platform, journalists and watchdogs created timelines that comprehensively looked into the events, even summarizing important questions raised in the plenary by minority representative whom until the end fought against the resolution.

Observers believe the resolution paves the way for the extension of the

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